

ones, and close friends who have tragically lost someone from prescription or substance abuse. The product of our work gives a voice to those that unfortunately are not here to share their own stories.

Opioid abuse and addiction is a top concern. It is especially prominent in our Veteran population.

Our Veterans often return with both physical and mental wounds. The invisible wounds they sustain serving our country are just as serious as the physical ones, and we must find the best ways to care for each and every hero.

Recent statistics show that 20–22 Veterans commit suicide each day. This is deeply troubling. We must do all we can to prevent Veteran suicide and ensure they receive the quality care they have earned and deserve.

I am grateful to my colleagues for accepting some of my priorities that I have been diligently advocating for this Congress. Specifically, my initiatives, the Creating Options for Veterans Expedited Recovery or COVER Act (H.R. 271) and the Jason Simcakoski Promoting Responsible Opioid Management and Incorporating Scientific Expertise or the PROMISE Act (H.R. 4063), were incorporated into this bill along with other measures I have authored in the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

The COVER Act is a bipartisan provision which provides a pathway forward that will eventually allow Veterans to have a range of options for mental health treatments such as outdoor sports therapy, hyperbaric oxygen therapy, accelerated resolution therapy, and service dog therapy.

The PROMISE Act will increase safety for opioid therapy and pain management by requiring the VA and DOD to update their Clinical Practice Guidelines for Management of Opioid Therapy for Chronic Pain. It also requires VA opioid prescribers to have enhanced pain management and safe opioid prescribing education and training and further requires the VA to increase information sharing with state licensing boards.

My bill encourages transparency and will further efforts to hold the VA accountable by requiring GAO to report on recommendations for improvement and assess the level of care Veterans are receiving.

Additionally, the PROMISE Act will authorize a program on integration of complementary and integrative health within the VA and encourage more outreach and awareness of the Patient Advocacy Program to educate Veterans on their care options.

Mr. Speaker, our Veterans have sacrificed so much for our country, and we have a responsibility to ensure they are receiving the quality of care they have earned and deserve. We must hold the VA accountable and encourage optimal care for all Veterans who have fought for the freedoms we enjoy on a daily basis.

Enactment of both these bills sends a clear message that enough is enough. Even one life lost is one too many. Those that have been bestowed the sacred duty of caring for our true heroes must have the training, resources and passion to do right.

This victory would not have been possible without the commitment and tireless work of so many. I sincerely thank everyone for their support and advocacy in our efforts to combat the opioid epidemic in our country. Through the collaboration with families back home,

stakeholders, and many others, we were able to come together to make necessary reforms and investments to really take a stand and save lives.

First and foremost, I want to extend my appreciation to the Simcakoski family. Like so many others who have been affected by similar tragedies, hearing firsthand from families such as the Simcakoskis highlighted the need that we can and must do more for those who have proudly served to defend our great nation.

I greatly appreciate the support from my colleagues in the House and Senate, especially Senator TAMMY BALDWIN for spearheading this effort in the Senate, Representatives RON KIND and KATHLEEN RICE for taking the lead with me in the House, and those who cosponsored the PROMISE Act and COVER Act.

I want to thank the following groups for their efforts and letters of support as well including: the American Legion, AMVETS, Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America, the Disabled Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, Blinded American Veterans Foundation, Wounded Warrior Project, Veterans of Foreign Wars, VetsFirst, the Fleet Reserve Association, the United States Conference of Mayors, American Dance Therapy Association, American Music Therapy Association, American Art Therapy Association, Brain Treatment Center, Mental Health America, Boston Scientific, U.S. Pain Foundation, Performing Arts Alliance, the Certification Board for Music Therapists, Mid-America Arts Alliance, Pasco County Alliance for Substance Abuse, the Sixth Judicial Circuit's Veterans' Treatment Court, National Alliance for Mental Illness Pasco/Pinellas, BayCare Behavioral Health, Veterans' Alternative Center, my Veterans' Advisory Committee, the Pinellas County Veteran Service Office, the Pasco County Veteran Service Office, the Hillsborough County Veteran Service Office, and the organizations that signed onto the letter led by the Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose.

I also want to thank Dr. Kevin Kip, who oversees the Accelerated Resolution Therapy program at the University of South Florida, Dr. Edi Dopking, Director of Quantum Leap Farms, Inc., Judge Shawn Crane of the Sixth Judicial Circuit's Veterans' Treatment Court, Sheriff Bob Gualtieri of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Chris Nocco of the Pasco County Sheriff's Office, and Doug Leonardo, Executive Director for BayCare Behavioral Health, for their input and hard work to help our heroes.

To everyone else who was involved, advocated for the COVER and PROMISE Acts, and those who spread the word on the importance of these bills through social media, thank you so very much from the bottom of my heart. Our Veterans deserve it all, and getting this done on their behalf symbolizes our commitment to uphold our promises as a grateful nation.

#### HONORING FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

#### HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Florida Atlantic University

for the success of their MBA in Sports Management program. The program recently ranked third out of over 600 graduate-level sports programs internationally.

FAU started offering a MBA in Sports Management in 2000, and has been ranked in the top 10 programs in the world for four years now. Alumni of the program have gone on to work for Florida teams like the Miami Dolphins, Miami Heat, and Florida Panthers, as well as professional sports teams and university athletic departments across the country.

It is my great privilege to recognize FAU for this accomplishment and for all they have done for their students, the South Florida community, and professional sports.

#### IN HONOR OF JEEP'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY & CELEBRATING THE NEXT 75 YEARS OF JEEP CITY IN TOLEDO

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we return from celebrating Labor Day in communities across our nation to pay special tribute to the iconic American automobile known as Jeep. Let us applaud the men and women who have dedicated the best years of their lives to building this enduring industrious vehicle over generations. Toledo invited the world to celebrate Jeep's 75th anniversary on August 13, 2016. Jeeps of every year and model, some quite rare, prototypes and one-of-a-kinds, rolled into Toledo to parade through the streets and show off the Jeep's history.

Jeep's story began as a durable and reliable vehicle intended for the theatre of military battle and forged in wartime for the troops fighting in World War II. The do-anything, go-anywhere Jeep long ago evolved from its trademark olive-toned, rugged utilitarian vehicle into a classic and enviable symbol of America's fortitude, determination and resolve. The Jeep has survived and thrived for the past seventy-five years, emerging in our nation's consciousness from ubiquity on the battlefield to a rugged symbol found in millions of driveways around the globe.

Though Toledo cannot lay sole claim to its actual origin, the engine powering the 645,000 wartime Jeeps was designed in Toledo and Willys Corporation trademarked the brand name. The history explains that, "After winning a government contract, Willys-Overland's Toledo factory built approximately 368,000 vehicles for the U.S. Army during World War II. They were shipped all over the world. Where the Army went, the Jeep went."

Willys-Overland went on to build the "Jeep station wagon, the first all-steel wagon ever built in America. Toledo also introduced the world to the Grand Wagoneer, the world's first luxury SUV. The next generation of the brand's flagship Wrangler" will be built in Toledo, too. "Last year, Jeep sold 1.2 million vehicles worldwide. The company's Toledo Assembly Complex built 538,993, or 45 percent of them. All the while, as Toledoans built Jeeps, Jeep helped to build the City's middle class."

Much like America itself, Jeep's core characteristics are strength, durability and reliability. This has been made possible by a

dedicated hardworking workforce of the men and women of the Toledo region, Jeep's home for all of these years. Our national celebration of the Jeep is as much a celebration of Jeep's workforce as it is this enduring vehicle. The hardworking and dedicated men and women of the United Auto Workers Local 12 have carried Jeep forward over the decades. It is the blood, sweat and toil of thousands of auto workers over three quarters of a century that delivered Jeep to its 75th anniversary.

The road has not always been easy: there have been times when the workforce and Toledo were faced with real challenges to "Keep Jeep" in Toledo. The aging Willys Overland factory was replaced with a gleaming state of the art modern complex that now produces the legendary vehicles. The City of Toledo and Jeep's workforce have responded time and again to re-making Toledo's signature vehicle. Their efforts have been rewarded as the company continues its investment in its workforce and in Toledo where work is underway on a \$700 million retooling and the addition of 700 new jobs.

There are Jeep enthusiasts all across our country. They love their Jeeps and the qualities of the vehicle as much as the symbolism. Yet, as its anniversary celebration proved, Toledo loves its Jeep. Its legacy is an important part of our identity as a community.

"I build Jeeps" a United Auto Worker says with pride. The sentiment was eloquently captured in the Toledo Blade's excellent commemorative insert on the 75th anniversary of the Jeep. The story told through the commemorative insert underscores the significance of the phrase "Toledo Built Jeep" to Toledo and northern Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, "It is true that the American people know Detroit as Motor City," but I rise today to declare that my hometown, "Toledo, Ohio is Jeep Country." Congratulations to Chrysler Fiat Corporation and the United Auto Workers Local 12 on their building the signature Jeep in Toledo, Ohio. We look forward to the next 75 years in Jeep City.

TUESDAY'S IN TEXAS: MANUEL T. GONZAULLAS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the year was 1906 when a young, fifteen year old was staying in Texas with his family. He was a forced to watch as both of his brothers were murdered by bandits, and his parents barely escaped with their lives. It was then and there that this young man decided to use his life to fight crime. And that man is Manuel T. Gonzauillas, the "Lone Wolf."

Within the next fourteen years, he trained in law enforcement and joined the Texas Rangers. One look at him and you wouldn't think of him as an intimidating man. He only stood about five foot, nine inches. "He was soft-spoken man," one of his friends said of him. He was known as quite the dresser, always impeccably groomed and styled, loved fancy cars and guns and always carried his pocket

Testament. But don't let his appearance fool you. He viewed all lawbreakers, criminals and felons with an instinctual hatred, granting those who dared to cause trouble no mercy. The legend states that Gonzauillas worked alone. He recalls "I went into a lot of fights by myself, and I came out by myself, too." The dastardly Mexican bandits began to call him "El Lobo Solo" or the "Lone Wolf." The name stuck.

In another famous lore occurring in 1930, Gonzauillas rushed into the town of Sherman, Texas when a field hand brutally raped his employer's wife. When a mass riot broke out and the courthouse was set on fire, Gonzauillas took his position in front of the county jail. Texas Ranger historian Robert Utley writes "With a pistol holstered on each hip, a Thompson submachine gun conspicuous by his hide, and a sawed off shotgun in hand, he confronted the crowds advancing on the jail." His aggressive style and larger than life attitude protected the people of Texas from the lawbreakers of society.

Not to be left out, Texas legend holds that, at the time, the oil-boom town of Kilgore was "the most lawless town in Texas." But when Gonzauillas rode into town on his black stallion, everyone knew he meant business. There were several gangs and bandits running about the town and its new booming oil economy, but within the first few weeks Gonzauillas had already shot three men and was on the road to cleaning up the town. "He'd give you a warning," one Kilgore resident said. "And if you didn't heed it, he'd shoot you." It was said that at one point he had arrested three hundred men suspected of various crimes. He paraded them down town, and had them all handcuffed. He then told them they could all go free . . . if they left town within the next four hours. They were all gone within ten minutes.

These, and many of his other bold brave deeds earned him the reputation in the Texas country side of riding into town on his black stallion Tony. Then he would singlehanded rid the town of outlaws, bandits and troublemakers. Although he was usually outnumbered by the bad guys, he fearlessly fought hard to keep the Texas land safe for law abiding citizens. In a time when the oil boom was bringing all types of people to the Texas frontier, Texas Ranger Manuel Gonzauillas—The Lone Wolf—was making sure they followed the Law, or face unpleasant consequences.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING MARTY HELPERS ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marty Helpers as he retires from a long and fulfilling union career.

Marty Helpers began his distinguished career in the building and construction trades as a gas serviceman in 1979. Later working as a steamfitter and project manager, his leader-

ship ability earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues. In 2007, he was selected to be the Executive Director of the West Central Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council. Representing the interests of 17,000 workers across 13 counties, he skillfully improved the relationships between labor, owners, developers, and contractors. He recognized the fact that strong and healthy labor organizations are fundamental to a thriving middle class.

In addition to his work for the Trades Council, Marty has made career opportunities in the building and construction trades more accessible for young workers as a certified instructor of apprentice plumbers, steamfitters, welders, and service technicians and also as a chair of the Peoria Construction Career Expo. He is an active member of Steamfitters Local 353 and sits on the Heart of Illinois United Way Board of Directors, the Tri-County Construction Labor-Management Council, the Peoria Area Management Council, the West Central Illinois Labor Council, and the Illinois Prevailing Wage Council.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Helpers once again for his commitment to organized labor and the community alike. I wish him the best in his well-earned retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF PASTOR DONNELL RIGGINS AND THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEL PASO UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 70th anniversary of Del Paso Union Baptist Church and Pastor Donnell Riggins. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their important roles in Del Paso Heights and in the larger Sacramento community.

As lead pastor of the Del Paso Union Baptist Church, Pastor Donnell Riggins has demonstrated outstanding dedication to his community. Through his work with the Shoulder to Shoulder organization, he has empowered at-risk local youth and fostered their development into excellent citizens. Following the inspirational example set by Pastor Donnell Riggins, the congregation of the Del Paso Union Baptist Church Sacramento Community makes community service a priority, regularly volunteering with the Sacramento Food Bank and St. John's Program for Real Change to provide necessary goods and services for Sacramento's less fortunate. The commitment of Pastor Donnell Riggins and the Del Paso Union Baptist to the people of Del Paso Heights has been nothing short of exemplary.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to pay tribute to Pastor Donnell Riggins and the Del Paso Union Baptist Church. As the congregation of Del Paso Union Baptist Church gathers to celebrate their 70th anniversary and the service of Pastor Donnell Riggins, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Pastor Donnell Riggins and the Del Paso Union Baptist Church for their invaluable contributions to Del Paso Heights and the Greater Sacramento community.